

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

39. (Currently Amended) A polymeric material incorporating an infection resistant biguanide-containing moiety pendant to a polymer chain, [being] wherein the biguanide-containing moiety is chemically bound to the polymer chain though some but not all of the secondary amine nitrogen atoms of a -NH-C(NH)-NH-C(NH)-NH- biguanide group or groups of the infection resistant biguanide-containing moiety, [and the chemical binding is via a substituted urea linkage, a substituted thiourea linkage, a N,N-disubstituted amide linkage or a N,N-disubstituted amination linkage] such that a tertiary amino group remains in a bound biguanide residue.

40. (Currently Amended) A polymeric material according to claim 39 wherein the infection resistant biguanide-containing moiety is [biguanide is the residue of] chlorhexidine or polyhexanide.

41. (Currently Amended) A medical device comprising a polymeric material incorporating an infection resistant biguanide-containing moiety pendant to a polymer chain, [being] wherein the biguanide-containing moiety is chemically bound to the polymer chain though some but not all of the secondary amine nitrogen atoms of a -NH-C(NH)-NH-C(NH)-NH- biguanide group or groups of the infection resistant biguanide-containing moiety, [and the chemical binding is via a substituted urea linkage, or a substituted thiourea linkage, or a N,N-disubstituted amide linkage or a N,N-disubstituted hemiaminal or amination linkage or a tertiary amine linkage] such that a tertiary amino group remains in a bound biguanide residue.

42. (Currently Amended) A medical device according to claim 41 wherein the medical device is formed from or coated with the polymeric material of claim 39 [incorporating the infection resistant biguanide], or the medical device is first formed from or coated with polymeric material which is thereafter reacted with an infection resistant biguanide-containing moiety such that the biguanide-containing moiety is chemically bound to the polymer chain though some but not all of the secondary amine nitrogen atoms of a -NH-C(NH)-NH-C(NH)-NH- biguanide group or groups of the infection resistant biguanide-containing moiety, wherein a tertiary amino group remains in a bound biguanide residue [chemically bound to some but not all of the nitrogen atoms of the infection resistant biguanide, or the medical device is first formed from or coated

with polymeric material which is thereafter chemically bound to the residuum of a non-polymeric compound that has been bound to some but not all of the nitrogen atoms of the infection-resistant biguanide].

44. (Previously Presented) A medical device according to claim 41 formed as a contact lens or intra-ocular lens.

45. (Currently Amended) A method of making a polymeric material according to claim 39 which comprises ~~[chemically-binding]~~ reacting reactive sites on a polymeric material with some but not all of the secondary amine nitrogen atoms of a -NH-C(NH)-NH-C(NH)-NH- biguanide group or groups of ~~[the]~~ an infection resistant biguanide-containing moiety, ~~[by means of a substituted-urea linkage, or a substituted thiourea linkage, or a N,N-disubstituted amide linkage or a N,N-disubstituted hemiaminal or aiminal linkage or a tertiary amine linkage]~~ such that a tertiary amino group remains in a bound biguanide residue.

46. (Currently Amended) A method according to claim 45 which comprises the preliminary step of forming a partial free base of the biguanide-containing moiety before reacting ~~[binding]~~ the reactive sites with the secondary nitrogen atoms.

47. (Previously Presented) A method according to claim 45 wherein the reactive sites comprise isocyanate, isothiocyanate, epoxide, acid chloride, acid anhydride, aldehyde, ketone or unsaturated sites.

48. (Currently Amended) A method according to claim 45 wherein the reactive sites comprise hydroxyl, carboxyl or amino groups and the reaction with ~~[binding to]~~ the nitrogen atoms is carried out in the presence of a carbonyl diimidazole or carbodiimide coupling agent.

49. (Currently Amended) A method of making an infection resistant polymeric material which comprises modifying a polymer precursor by ~~[chemically-binding]~~ reacting some but not all of the secondary amine nitrogen atoms of a -NH-C(NH)-NH-C(NH)-NH- biguanide group or groups of ~~[the]~~ an infection resistant biguanide-containing moiety, ~~[by means of a substituted-urea linkage, or a substituted thiourea linkage, or a N,N-disubstituted amide linkage or a N,N-disubstituted hemiaminal or aiminal linkage or a tertiary amine linkage]~~ with reactive sites on the polymer precursor such that a tertiary amino group remains in a bound biguanide residue, and thereafter converting the so modified polymer precursor to an infection resistant polymeric material by a method including a polymerisation step.

50. (Currently Amended) A method according to claim 49 which comprises the preliminary step of forming a partial free base of the biguanide-containing moiety before reacting [binding] the reactive sites with the secondary nitrogen atoms.

51. (Previously Presented) A method according to claim 49 wherein the reactive sites comprise isocyanate, isothiocyanate, epoxide, acid chloride, acid anhydride, aldehyde, ketone or unsaturated sites.

52. (Currently Amended) A method according to claim 49 wherein the reactive sites comprise hydroxyl, carboxyl or amino groups and the reaction with [binding to] the nitrogen atoms is carried out in the presence of a carbonyl diimidazole or carbodiimide coupling agent.

53. (Previously Presented) A method according to claim 49 wherein the polymer precursor also contains acrylate, methacrylate, allyl or vinyl groups, and the polymerisation step is carried out by polymerising the modified polymer precursor through the said groups.

54. (Currently Amended) A method of making a polymeric material according to claim 39 which comprises modifying a non-polymeric compound by [~~chemically-binding~~] reacting some but not all of the secondary amine nitrogen atoms of a -NH-C(NH)-NH-C(NH)-NH- biguanide group or groups of [the] an infection resistant biguanide-containing moiety, [~~by means of a substituted-urea linkage, or a substituted thiourea linkage, or a N,N-disubstituted amide linkage or a N,N-disubstituted hemiaminal or aminal linkage or a tertiary amine linkage~~] with reactive sites on the non-polymeric compound such that a tertiary amino group remains in a bound biguanide residue, and thereafter chemically binding the so modified compound to a polymeric material.

55. (Currently Amended) A method according to claim 54 which comprises the preliminary step of forming a partial free base of the biguanide-containing moiety before reacting [binding] the reactive sites with the secondary nitrogen atoms.

56. (Previously Presented) A method according to claim 54 wherein the reactive sites comprise isocyanate, isothiocyanate, epoxide, acid chloride, acid anhydride, aldehyde, ketone or unsaturated sites.

57. (Currently Amended) A method according to claim 54 wherein the reactive sites comprise hydroxyl, carboxyl or amino groups and the reaction with [binding to] the nitrogen atoms is carried out in the presence of a carbonyl diimidazole or carbodiimide coupling agent.

58. (Previously Presented) A method according to claim 54 wherein the non-polymeric compound also contains acrylate, methacrylate, allyl or vinyl groups, and the modified compound is chemically bound to a polymeric material through the said groups.

59. (Previously Presented) A method according to claim 45 wherein the resulting polymer containing biguanide groups is subsequently blended with other polymeric material to form an infection resistant polymer for use in forming an article of manufacture.
60. (Previously Presented) A method according to claim 59 wherein the resulting polymer containing biguanide groups is subsequently blended with medically acceptable polymeric material to form an infection resistant medical polymer blend for use in the manufacture of a medial device.
61. (Previously Presented) A method according to claim 60 wherein the resulting polymer containing biguanide groups is subsequently blended with ocularly acceptable lens material to form an infection resistant ocular polymer blend for use in the manufacture of a contact or intra-ocular lens.
62. (Previously Presented) A method according to claim 61 wherein the resulting polymer containing biguanide groups includes acrylate, methacrylate, allyl or vinyl groups and the polymer is subsequently copolymerised with ocularly acceptable lens material to form an infection resistant ocular polymer for use in the manufacture of a contact or intra-ocular lens.
63. (Previously Presented) A method according to claim 45 wherein the resulting polymer containing biguanide groups is subsequently coated on to an article of manufacture to form an infection resistant coating thereon.
64. (Currently Amended) A method according to claim 45 wherein the infection resistant biguanide-containing moiety [~~biguanide compound~~] is chlorhexidine or polyhexanide.
65. (Previously Presented) A method according to claim 64 wherein the resulting polymer contains biguanide groups derived from both chlorhexidine and polyhexanide.
66. (Currently Amended) A method according to claim 55 wherein the reactive sites comprise hydroxyl, carboxyl or amino groups and the reaction with [~~binding to~~] the nitrogen atoms is carried out in the presence of a carbonyl diimidazole or carbodiimide coupling agent.